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V.—ANGLO-SAXON GLOSSES TO BOETHIUS.

Wanley, in his Catalogue, p. 151 a, describes a certain Boethian manuscript belonging to the library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, as follows : “cod. membr. et antiquus, quem haud ita pridem, vir cl. Daniel Rogersius huic bibliothecae dono dedit : in eo habentur Anicii Manlii T. S. Boethii libri de consol. Philosophiae, quorum primus, et pars lib. secundi, tam in Textu, quam in Margine glossatur Saxonice.” This manuscript is now numbered 214, and is somewhat differently described in the Nasmith Catalogue (1777), p. 294 : “Codex membranaceus in 4to, seculo IX scriptus, in quo continentur Anicii Manlii Severini Boetii excons. ord. patric. philosophiae consolationis lib. V. Liber primus et secundus habent glossam Latinam, tertius Saxoniam.”

None of the editors of the Anglo-Saxon version of the *de consolatione philosophiae* having hitherto made mention of this manuscript, the question arises both as to their knowledge of its existence, and as to the possible relation of these glosses to the Anglo-Saxon text of this work contained in the Cottonian and Bodleian manuscripts. With a view to determine the latter point, the writer, several months ago, sought access to this apparently neglected Cambridge manuscript. The time selected, however, proved unfavorable to the undertaking. The freedom of “the long vacation” does not appear to have been unwelcome to the officers of the Corpus Christi, whose absence from the college upon this occasion was well calculated to give emphasis to the strict terms of the statute regulating the use of the precious legacy of the great archbishop. But the disappointment thus encountered was happily mitigated through the courtesy and kindness of Prof. Skeat, who promised soon to make an examination of the manuscript himself. It is, therefore, peculiarly gratifying that the following description of the manuscript, communicated by Prof. Skeat, can now be here given :

“MS No. 214, in the library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, was originally a fine and well-written copy of the chief work of Boethius, but has suffered at some time from rats, which have considerably injured it, so that it now presents but a ragged appearance. They have chiefly devoured the outer and lower

margins, leaving the greater part of most pages nearly entire; but three or four pages at the beginning are in a very bad state. The handwriting of the original MS, which is in Latin, is clear and good, and may belong to the tenth century. A portion of the MS abounds with neatly written glosses, in a small but clear handwriting; these glosses are partly in Latin, and partly in Anglo-Saxon; the latter being less carefully written, and perhaps of somewhat later date. Perhaps all these glosses may be referred to the eleventh century. Near the beginning there are also numerous marginal notes, all in Latin, of the same date as the Latin glosses.

"The Latin glosses and marginal notes, which are very numerous (almost every word being glossed), extend throughout the first Book, and a part of the second, but cease suddenly at the end of a page in Lib. II, Prosa V; after which no more glosses or notes appear throughout the remainder of Book II. But with the beginning of Book III a second set of glosses appears, all of which are (I think) in Anglo-Saxon; nearly every word has a gloss written above it, and these are continued throughout the first eight chapters (both in prose and verse), and throughout a little more than half of Prosa IX. These also cease suddenly at the bottom of a page, at the words *etiam id quod maxime*; the next page begins with *petebat*, etc., unglossed.

"The glosses are of the usual character, and are merely meant to be of assistance to the reader whose acquaintance with Latin is not very great. As usual, each gloss relates merely to the Latin word over which it appears, grammatical rules being frequently disregarded, so that the words, if read continuously, do not often form a consecutive and perfect sentence. There is a remarkable mistake at the very outset. The third word in the third Book is *illa*. This being written in large letters, has been mistaken for *uia*, and glossed by *we3*. It slightly resembles *uia* at a first glance, but can only be read as *illa* by any one who pays moderate attention. It is clear that these glosses are not in any way connected with Alfred's translation, a point which it was highly desirable to determine."

A few specimen pages of these Anglo-Saxon glosses, for which the reader is also indebted to Prof. Skeat, will best serve to show the character of the work just described.

At the beginning of Book III is the rubric—*Anicii Manlii Seuerini Boetii, excon. ord. patric. philosophiae consolat . . .*¹

¹ Dots are employed to denote the parts eaten away.

Then follows the Latin text with the glosses as follows :

eallinȝa sanȝ weȝ¹ ȝeendude ȝa ȝ ȝne
 Iam cantum illa finiuerat, . . . diendi auidum
and wundriendne leoȝes ic cwæȝ
 stupentem . . . carm . . . [end of folio] . . . O inquam,
 ȝu hyxta weriȝra moda hu swyȝe ȝu
 summum lassorum . . . animorum quam tume (sic; for quan-
 oȝȝe cwyda mid byrȝenne oȝȝe to ȝyddienne
 tum me) uel sententiarum pondere uel canendi
 eac swylce mid wynsumnesse ȝehlywdest to ȝam swyȝe ȝæt
 etiam iocunditate refouisti Adeo ut iam
 æf ȝysum unȝemæcne ȝewyrde swenȝum wesan ic
 me post haec imparem fortunæ ictibus esse
 ne wene lacnunȝa ȝa hwene teartran
 non arbitrer. Itaque remedia quæ paulo acriora esse
 ȝu sædest ne furȝun ic ne ondræde ac to ȝehyrenne
 dicebas non modo non perhorresco, sed audiendi
 ȝrædi ȝearle ic ȝyrne ȝa seo. s. sapientia ic onȝæ
 auidus uehementer efflagito. Tum illa: Sensi,
 ȝa stille *and* ȝeornful ȝu ȝeȝripe
 inquit, cum uerba nostra tacitus attentusque rapiebas
 ȝone sylfan *and* ic ȝeanbidude oȝȝe
 eumque tuæ mentis habitum uel expectaui uel,
 soȝȝe ic sylf ȝefremede swylce
 quod est uerius ipsa perfecī. Talia sunt quippe
 ȝa ȝinȝ ȝe ȝær belifaȝ ȝæt onbyȝede witudlice
 quæ restant, ut degustata quidem . . . deant,
 innane underfanȝene hi werediaȝ ac eala forȝon
 interius autem recepta dul[cescant] . . . Sed quod
 ȝe to ȝehlystenne ȝrædiȝre hu miclum bryne ȝu burne
 tu te . audiendi cupi . . . quanto ardore flagrares,
 ȝyf ȝelædan we onȝynnaf ȝu onȝe . . . boetius to ȝære soȝan
 si . . [du]cere aggrediamur agn m. Ad uer[am]

¹ See explanation above.

cwæð. s. sapientia zesæliȝnyse þæt
 . . . [end of page], inquit felicitatem quam tu . .
 swefnað mod fac (sic!) abyseȝodre zesyhðe
 somniat animus sed occupato ad . . . gines uisu
 þa sylfan hi ne mæȝ þa s. boetius inquam
 ipsam illam non potest in[tu]jeri. Tum ego :
 do ic halsiȝe and hwæt seo soȝe sy. s. felicitas butan
 Fac obsecro & quae illa uera sit sine
 yldinȝe zeswutela ic do cwæð seo. s. sapientia
 cunctatione demonstra. Faciam, inquit illa
 for þinum þinȝum lustlice ac se þe intinȝa cuðre
 tui causa libenter; sed quae tibi causa notior
 is þone ærest zeswutelian mid wordum and zestaðlian
 est eam prius designare uerbis atque informare
 ic ȝehyc . . . þæt þære s. felicitate zesewenre þonne on
 conabor, ut ea perspecta, cum in
 þone wiðerwerdan dæl þu ȝebiȝyst eazan þære soȝan
 contrariam partem flexeris oculos uerae
 hiuw eadiȝnyse þu mæȝe oncnawan
 specimen (sic) beatitudinis poscis (sic) agnoscere

The glosses of the meter, *Qui serere ingenuum uolet agrum*,
 etc., may be given, line by line, without the Latin text. Prof.
 Skeat has observed that the MS has *prior* for *prius* in line 6.

- se þe sawan æpelne wyle æker
 ȝewylt land oþpe eorðan ærest fram þyfelum
 mid sicole gosstas and fearn he mæst (sic, for mæwð),
 þæt niwa wæstmæ hefiȝ fare oþpe
 5. weredre is beona
 . . . yfel muðas ærest swæcc
 þær þær
 . . . hagelbærene syllan sweȝeas
 þystru ut adrifð
 10. [f]æȝra dæȝ rosreade he brinȝð hors
 eac swylce lease behealdende ȝod ærest
 [o]nȝinn swyran fram iocæ atean
 soȝan syððan mod ȝefarað.

The beginning of the next section (Prosa II) is glossed with the following words:

ða stariendre on lytle hwile 3esyhðe and swylce on þæt cynelice
hyre modes setl onfan3en þus on3an s. dicens ælc menniscra caru þa
moni3fealdra 3ecneornessa 3eswinc be3æð missenlicum . . . lice
paðe forð-stæpð ac to anum [e]adi3nysse ende heo 3ehi3ð becuman.
þæt . . . is 3od þa æni3 be3ytenum nan þin3 . . . 3ewilnian he mæ3
þæt witudlice . . . hyhst 3oda ealle . . . 3od and embhæbbende
þæt 3if hwæt . . . wesan hit ne mihte forþon þe [end of folio].

JAMES W. BRIGHT.